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THE WAR DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SPECIAL TRAINING

THE Secretary of War authorizes the following announcement:

With a view to mobilizing the educational institutions of the country and their facilities for special training, there has been created in the War Department a "Committee on Education and Special Training." Associated with this committee will be five civilian educators, known as an advisory board of educators.

The committee will be composed of Col. Hugh S. Johnson, deputy provost marshal general; Lieutenant Colonel Robert I. Rees, of the General Staff, and Major Grenville Clark, of the Adjutant General's Department.

The five advisory members of the committee, whose selection has been approved by the Secretary of War, are:

Dr. Charles R. Mann, of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. James R. Angell, of Chicago, dean of the faculties of the University of Chicago.

Mr. J. W. Dietz, of Chicago, director of education, Western Electric Company, president of the National Association of Corporation Schools.

Mr. James P. Munroe, of Boston, a member of the Federal Board for Vocational Education (which appointment will include the interests of the trade schools and schools of secondary grade).

Dr. Samuel P. Capen, of the U. S. Bureau of Education, specialist in higher education.

In these appointments it is felt that the entire educational field has been covered, since Dr. Mann is representative of engineering schools, Dr. Angell is representative of academic colleges and universities, and Mr. Dietz

is from the field of schools conducted by industrial concerns. The committee will be authorized to call in from time to time other educators for consultation and assistance.

The functions of this committee will be to mobilize the country's schools and colleges behind the Army. It will encourage and arrange for the technical education of men needed by the several branches of the Army, particularly the Ordnance Bureau, the Signal Corps and the Engineers. In a degree the educational institutions are already rendering patriotic service to the government, but it is planned that there shall be a systematization of their efforts and that their facilities for technical training shall be fully utilized.

The General Order of the War Department creating the "Committee on Education and Special Training," defines its functions in the following broad terms:

Under the direction of the Chief of Staff the functions of the committee shall be: To study the needs of the various branches of the service for skilled men and technicians; to determine how such needs shall be met, whether by selective draft, special training in educational institutions, or otherwise; to secure the cooperation of the educational institutions of the country and to represent the War Department in its relations with such institutions; to administer such plan of special training in schools and colleges as may be adopted.

It is ordered that the committee shall be given such assistance, commissioned and civilian, as may be necessary to fully execute its duties, with office room in the War Department Building.

It is estimated that within the next six months 75,000 to 100,000 men will be given intensive training in schools and colleges. These men will be drawn from the armed forces of the nation, the men now in training camps or about to be called thereto, and the registrants under the selective draft act. It is expected that most of the men selected for technical training will be taken from among the men who have registered under the selective draft law and who are awaiting training and the call to the colors.

In the selection of men for intensive training in technical subjects the committee will have available the information contained in

the questionnaires which have been filled out by registrants under the selective draft law, the records and knowledge of colleges and educators of young men whose aptitude for technical service may be utilized, and the classifications of men already in training camps which have been made by the classification committee headed by Professor Walter Dill Scott.

The great demand in this war for skilled men and technicians and for educated men in many lines has been apparent. Much splendid work for the army has been done by the educational institutions in the aviation ground schools and in training specialists for various branches of the service. The Federal Board for Vocational Education has also rendered substantial service. It is now proposed to mobilize more completely the educational institutions of the country and the great educational resources of the nation, to utilize them to the utmost, and to send a large number of men to colleges, educational institutions, at an early date for intensive training in army service on technical lines.

CHEMISTRY AND THE WAR

ADEQUATE chemical control of manufacturing plants engaged in the supply of war material is now receiving the careful consideration of the War Department. The experience of both Great Britain and France teaches the necessity of conserving the supply of trained chemists, at no time large, in order that the supplies upon which the winning of the war so largely depends may not be curtailed.

Provision has now been made through an order of the Adjutant General of the Army by which manufacturers of material necessary to the prosecution of the war, who have lost the services of chemists through the first draft, may again obtain the services of these men for war work.

It is announced, also, that provision has been made by which manufacturers threatened with the loss of their trained chemists in the present draft may retain these men. Only those chemists whose services are necessary to war work will be considered, and the evidence submitted by the manufacturer must be conclusive.

Manufacturers thus affected should apply to the Chemical Service Section, N. A., New Interior Building, Washington, D. C., for the regulations governing the transfer of men already drafted, or the possible reclassification of men not yet called. This request must come from the manufacturers; applications from the men will not be considered.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ALONZO E. TAYLOR, professor of physiological chemistry in the University of Pennsylvania, will give the address at the forty-second anniversary of the opening of Johns Hopkins University on February 22.

SIDNEY J. JENNINGS, vice-president of the U. S. Smelting, Refining and Mining Co., has been elected president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers to succeed Philip N. Moore of St. Louis.

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society has been presented to Mr. John Evershed for his contributions to astrophysics.

THE following important changes made in the administrative organization of the United States Public Health Service are noted in the *Journal* of the American Medical Association. Surgeon J. W. Schereschewsky has been relieved at Pittsburgh and assigned for duty as assistant surgeon-general in charge of the Division of Scientific Research. Assistant Surgeon-General J. W. Kerr, who formerly held this position, has been assigned to the director of the Hygienic Laboratory for temporary duty. Surgeon B. S. Warren has been relieved from duty with the United States Employees' Compensation Commission and has been assigned as assistant surgeon-general in charge of the Division of Sanitary Reports and Statistics. Assistant Surgeon-General J. W. Trask, who held the latter position, has been assigned to the position vacated by Surgeon Warren. Assistant Surgeon-General W. C. Rucker, in charge of domestic quarantine, has been assigned for special temporary duty with the War Department in the British Isles and on the continent of Europe in connection with maritime quarantine for the prevention of the